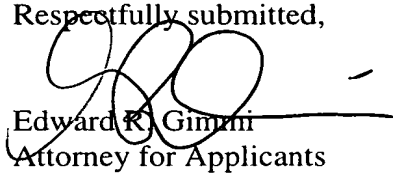
Serial No.: To Be Assigned
Group Art Unit No.: Unknown

REMARKS

If it would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to confer with the Applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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Version with markings to Show Changes Made

1. (Amended) A method of determining the severity of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) in a patient which comprises measuring the concentration of soluble E-cadherin in a sample of the patient's urine [and/]or blood serum and determining the extent of severity by reference to a correlation graph which correlates Forced Expiratory Volume in the first second of expiration (FEV1) with soluble E-cadherin concentration.

2 (Amended) A method of according to claim 1, wherein said[comprising] measuring step comprises measuring the concentration of soluble E-cadherin in a sample of the patient's blood serum.

3 (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said[comprising] measuring step comprises measuring the concentration of soluble E-cadherin in a sample of the patient's urine.

4. (Amended) A method according to claims 1 [and]or 2, wherein said[which comprises] measuring step comprises measuring the concentration of soluble E-cadherin in a sample of the patient's blood serum and urine.

6. (Amended) A method according to claim 5, wherein said[comprising] identifying step comprises identifying the concentration of soluble E-cadherin in a sample of the patient's blood serum.

7. (Amended) A method according to claim 5, wherein said[comprising] identifying step comprises identifying the concentration of soluble E-cadherin in a sample of the patient's urine.

8. (Amended) A method according to claim 5, wherein said[comprising] identifying step comprises identifying the levels of soluble E-cadherin in a sample of the patient's blood serum and urine.

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10. (Amended) A method according to claim 9, wherein said[comprising] monitoring step comprises monitoring the concentration of soluble E-cadherin in a sample of the patient's urine.

11. (Amended) A method according to claim 9, wherein said[comprising] monitoring step comprises monitoring the concentration of soluble E-cadherin in a sample of the patient's blood serum.

12. (Amended) A method according to claim 9, wherein said[comprising] monitoring step comprises monitoring the concentration of soluble E-cadherin in samples of the patient's urine and blood serum with time.

14. (Amended) A product according to claim 13, wherein said means to report the concentration of soluble E-cadherin comprises and anti-soluble E-cadherin antibody.

15. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims 1 to 12]claim 1 wherein the correlation graph correlates FEV1 (as a percentage of the predicted value) with soluble E-cadherin concentration.